

Substance Abuse Services Division
ASAIS Conference Call
March 3, 2006

Minutes

- On March 3, 2006, the third Substance Abuse Services Division's Alabama Substance Abuse Information System (ASAIS) conference call was held. The call began at 10 am and hosted approximately thirty provider organizations, most with multiple staff participating.
- Agenda Item # 1 - Introductions: Mr. Hunt welcomed and thanked the providers for joining the 3rd ASAIS conference call. Mr. Hunt asked providers to introduce themselves. The following organizations were identified. We apologize if any were omitted.

West Alabama Mental Health Center
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center
Cahaba Mental Health Center
Chemical Addictions Program
Olivia's House
Drug Education Council
Calhoun-Cleburne MHC
North Central Mental Health Center
Mobile Mental Health Center
Jefferson-Blount-St. Clair
Mountain Lakes
UAB
Fellowship House
Lighthouse Counseling Center
Aletheia House
Chilton Shelby Mental Health Center
The Bridge, Inc.
East Alabama Mental Health Center
First Step
Cullman Mental Health Authority
Northwest AL MHC
Franklin Primary
Riverbend Mental Health Center
Birmingham Healthcare
CED Mental Health Center

- Staff participation included:

Mr. Kent Hunt
Ms. Sarah Harkless

Ms. Lynn Frost
Mr. Kris Vilamaa
Ms. Kathy Seifried
Mr. Brandon Folks
Ms. Crystal Jackson
Ms. Natasha Wyman
Ms. Delores Bynum
Ms. Stephanie McCladdie
Ms. Hilary Hamlin
Ms. Becky Novack

Mr. Hunt asked Mr. Kris Vilamaa to conduct the conference call. Mr. Vilamaa is the Director for Information Services and is the Project Director for ASAIS. He has now assumed the duties for the project and will be the moderator for the conference calls.

➤ Agenda Item # 2 – ASAIS Update:

Design sessions to include Claims Processing, Business Analysis, Data Elements and extensive list of fields for the TEDS data have taken place all week.

The goal is to release data elements in draft form on Monday.

The function and structure of the system and the go live date has not changed. The go live date is October 1st.

The website is up and running to include the link for substance abuse (ASAIS) and mental retardation (MRIS).

➤ Agenda Item # 3 – Timelines:

The timelines have not changed.

➤ Agenda Item # 4 – Questions:

Questions from the provider participants:

- 1) Has any progress been made in regard to sending information via email?

The secure website is changing, but that option will be explored fully. It does not look like email will be a viable option.

- 2) There appears to be a conflict in corporate compliance in regard to Medicaid and who is responsible for the billing.

Being familiar with the corporate compliance process, there does not appear to be a conflict according to Ms. Harkless. There are measures in place to protect the public dollar. If any specific issues need to be resolved around corporate compliance, providers are encouraged to bring that to the department's attention.

3) Who has liability as far as audits?

The provider has a responsibility to validate the claims that are prepared. Good practice is essential.

4) How will retroactive Medicaid eligibility be handled?

Ms. Novack responded that regular updates will be maintained in ASAIS. Modifications will be made based on determination of retroactive eligibility.

5) Regarding automatic back bill, will both standards be the same?

There will be one standard of care. Medicaid and Substance Abuse standards will be the same.

6) What timeline do you have for standards?

October 1, 2006

7) Minutes were received late. Can you send minutes sooner?

Yes, we will distribute the minutes sooner and will also post on the web.

8) What about rural areas and the capability of submitting data?

DSL lines should be available with fast access internet.

9) Several programs in the rural area do not have the capability of DSL.

We will be working with each individual provider to identify their needs and solutions will be made available.

10) Will the state provide assistance?

It is our goal that each center has a process in place in order to send the requested information.

11) Have prevention contract amendments been mailed?

Yes.

12) Will we be able to unbundle crisis residential?

It is our goal to unbundle everything.

13) How is the rate setting going to be handled for unbundling?

A committee will look at that. Ms. Harkless is gathering information on rates from other States. There will be a new rate structure.

14) Will you discuss upcoming prevention trainings?

All training has stopped for now. Technical assistance will be provided and training to begin in April. The Division has acquired the State Incentive Grant and a lot of work has to take place for this.

15) What if inaccurate information is sent to the wrong fax machine number?

Providers will have access to the system and will be able to check and verify data submissions.

➤ Agenda Item # 5 – Announcements:

Mr. Hunt thanked the providers for their participation. It is the intention of the Division to make sure each provider has internet capability and the ability to process claims.

The next conference call is scheduled for Friday, March 17, 2006 at 10 am. To participate please dial 1-888-776-3766. You will be prompted for a meeting room number, which is *2626217*. The star key (*) must be entered before and after entry of the numbers. Please make your call at least five (5) minutes before the start of each meeting.